(d) if so, the steps taken by Government to encourage more States in this direction in order to save the vultures from extinction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) The issue of decline in population of three species of vultures in the country was discussed in the meeting of the National Board for Wildlife in 2005 wherein it was recommended that the veterinary drug diclofenac should be banned. Accordingly the Ministry of Environment and Forests has taken up the matter with the concerned Ministries and organizations to place a ban on diclofenac which has been identified as the major causative factor for the decline in the vulture population.

(c) and (d) Yes Sir, vulture conservation and breeding centres have been established at Pinjore, Haryana and Buxa, West Bengal in 2001 and 2005 respectively. Ministry through Central Zoo Authority, has decided to provide financial and technical assistance to States for establishment of vulture conservation centers in related zoos.

Wall along Mumbai's coastal line

623. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether after the last killer Tsunami, Maharashtra has a plan of Rupees 107 crores to build retaining walls along a 13 Km. stretch along Mumbai's coastal line besides repairs plan of Worli wall; and

(b) if so, the financial grant provided by the Centre to the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

Water Quality of Yamuna

624. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the grade in which the water quality of Yamuna river around Delhi falls for the last more than two decades as per the guidelines of the Central Pollution Control Board;

(b) what specific steps are being taken by Government to bring it from 'E' to 'C' Grade, so as, to make water fit for drinking;

(c) the total number of small villages around Delhi which do not have sewage facilities; and

(d) if so, the remedial steps being taken by the Central Government in collaboration with State Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) As per the designated best use classification of the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), the water quality of river Yamuna in the stretch between Wazirabad downstream and Okhla has been reported as Class 'E' which indicates water quality suitable for irrigation, industrial cooling and controlled waste disposal. The water quality between Palla and Wazirabad generally belongs to Class 'C' indicating water quality suitable for drinking water source after conventional treatment and disinfection.

(b) The Ministry of Environment & Forests has been implementing Yamuna Action Plan (YAP) for pollution abatement of the river in the States of Uttar Pradesh, Delhi and Haryana with financial support from the Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC). The YAP Phase-I started in April, 1993 and has since been completed in February, 2003. Treatment facilities to the tune of 2330 million litres per day (mld), 322 mld and 401 mld have been created under YAP Phase-I in Delhi, Haryana and Uttar Pradesh respectively. The YAP Phase-II has been approved in July, 2003 for an estimated cost of Rs. 624 crore. The major item of works under the YAP Phase-II are:

- Rehabiliation of trunk sewers (30.82 km) and works of Sewage treatment Plants (135 mld new and 324 mld rehabilitation) in Delhi.
- Construction of Sewage Treatment Plant (38 mld) and Rehabilitation of Sewer Lines/Rising Mains (85.7 km) in U.P.
- Rehabilitation of Sewer lines (73 km) and improvement of efficiencies of existing Sewage Treatment Plants in Haryana.
- Preparation of Detailed Project Reports for YAP Phase-III.

In addition to the Yamuna Action Plan, the Government of NCT of Delhi has also taken up large scale sewerage and sewage treatment works from its own plan funds.

(c) and (d) As reported by Government of NCT of Delhi, out of 135 urban villages around Delhi, sewerage facilities have been provided in 105 villages. There are about 200 rural villages which do not have sewerage system. In addition, the Delhi Government has prepared an Action Plan for providing the sewerage facilities to 107 urban villages.

Water Quality of Yamuna

624. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the grade in which the water quality of Yamuna river around Delhi falls for the last more more than two decades as per the guidelines of the Central Pollution Control Board;

(b) what specific steps are being taken by Government to bring it from 'E' to 'C' Grade, so as, to make water fit for drinking;

(c) the total number of small villages around Delhi which do not have sewage facilities; and

(d) if so, the remedial steps being taken by the Central Government in collaboration with State Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) As per the designated best use classification of the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), the water quality of river Yamuna in the stretch between Wazirabad downstream and Okhla has been reported as Class 'E' which indicates water quality suitable for irrigation, industrial cooling and controlled waste disposal. The water quality between Palla and Wazirabad generally belongs to Class 'C' indicating water quality suitable for drinking water source after conventional treatment and disinfection.

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and Uttar Pradesh respectively. The YAP Phase-II has been approved in July, 2003 for an estimated costs of Rs. 624 crore. The major item of works under the YAP Phase-II are:

- Rehabilitation of trunk sewers (30.82 km) and works of Sewage Treatment Plants (135 mld new and 324 mld rehabilitation) in Delhi.
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Financial assistance to Karnataka under NRCP and NLCP

625. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the request of the Government of Karnataka for financial assistance under National River Conservation Programme and National Lake Conservation Programme for rejuvenation/reclamation of certain historically and environmentally important rivers and lakes is pending for a long time with the Central Government; and

(b) if so, the details in this regard and the Centre's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (b) In addition to the ongoing projects in Karnataka under the National River Conservation Plan (NRCP), the Government of Karnataka has submitted additional proposals for 11 towns namely; Bagalkot, Maddur, Gokak, Baillahongol,